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# Resident Charges at California's Public Universities

A CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION FACTSHEET

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**C**ALIFORNIA charges its own residents less to attend its public colleges and universities than it charges nonresidents. It charges resident students systemwide fees as well as mandatory campus-based fees. These fees help support student services like counseling, health insurance, student union activities, student government, and recreation — but it has sought to avoid charging them for the direct cost of instruction, which it charges as “tuition” to nonresident students.

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## Who are resident students?

California defines resident students for tuition purposes as those who (1) have resided in California for at least one year and one day prior to enrolling in a college or university, and (2) intend to make California their home. A student can demonstrate intent to reside in California through a number of means including owning or renting property in the State, registering to vote in the State, paying California personal income taxes as a resident of the State, having a California driver's license, or owning a vehicle with California license plates.

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## What does the University of California charge resident students?

For 1992-93, the University is charging California residents an average of \$3,044 in mandatory fees, including a \$2,824 systemwide fee. According to the University, this total is 26 percent less than those charged by the average of four other public universities with which it compares itself on faculty salaries:

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	\$4,584
University of Virginia	3,890
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	3,458
State University of New York at Buffalo	<u>3,465</u>
Average of the four other universities	\$3,849

## What does the California State University charge resident students?

The California State University is charging resident students an average of \$1,456 in mandatory fees, including a \$1,308 systemwide fee. This total is lower than all but two of the 15 other public universities with which it compares itself in terms of faculty salaries and \$1,037 lower than the average of all 15:

Rutgers College, Rutgers The State University of New Jersey	\$4,040
George Mason University (Virginia)	3,336
University of Connecticut	3,300
Wayne State University	3,029
Cleveland State University	2,976
Illinois State University	2,937
State University of New York, Albany	2,883
University of Maryland, Baltimore County	2,855
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	2,393
Georgia State University	1,952
University of Colorado, Denver	1,917
University of Nevada, Reno	1,635
Arizona State University	1,590
North Carolina State University	1,318
University of Texas, Arlington	<u>1,236</u>
Average of the 15 other universities	\$2,493

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## How have charges for California residents changed over the years?

The displays on the reverse side show the average annual resident undergraduate fees at the University of California and the California State University for fiscal years 1975-76 through 1992-93, expressed in actual and constant 1992-93 dollars.

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*Total Annual Resident Undergraduate Student Fees at the University of California,  
Expressed in Actual and Constant 1992-93 Dollars, for Fiscal Years 1975-76 Through  
1992-93*

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*Total Annual Resident Undergraduate Student Fees at the California State University,  
Expressed in Actual and Constant 1992-93 Dollars, for Fiscal Years 1975-76 Through  
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